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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The second half of the one and two-year study courses at the Karl Marx Academy commenced on 1 August 1950. A four week summer vacation had afforded the students of the Academy an opportunity to become acquainted with the prevailing sentiment in the Soviet Zone. Many of the students were grieved to learn that the attitude of the populace toward the SED was not what they had been led to expect at the Academy. Popular seaside resorts were found to be infested with visitors from West Berlin, who spread the gospel of Western freedom and prosperity. Some of the students were apparently affected by the more relaxed atmosphere prevailing outside the Academy, and the contact with reactionary thought caused them to criticize the Soviet film dramatizing the fall of Berlin. The more convinced Communists at the Academy, however, soon remedied these deficiencies.
2. As was to be expected, the Third SED Party Conference, its speeches and resolutions, keynoted the ensuing study program and, at times, overshadowed the regularly scheduled course in political economy. On 9 August 1950, Fred Oelssner, chief theoretician and the man most directly concerned with drafting the final resolution of the Party Conference, spoke about its importance and the salient issues it treats. It was a foregone conclusion that continuing emphasis of the Conference and its decisions would, in the months to come, exert a fundamental influence on the affairs of the Academy. Attendance at a cycle of meetings devoted to the discussion of the Conference was mandatory for all students and employees of the Academy. The first meeting in this series was addressed by the head of the Academy, Rudolf Lindau, who treated Wilhelm Pieck's opening speech to the Conference, stressing the theme of Criticism and Self-Criticism. Among the visiting lecturers was Greta Kuckhoff who spoke on the economic and political development of the People's Democracies.
3. By the end of August 1950, the lectures of the Political/Economic Department had been concluded and, after an interim oral and written examination, the history faculty began its series with a lecture dealing with the industrial revolution in England. The curriculum of the History Department covers the period from 1789 to the present, with special emphasis on the workers' movement. Lecture outlines dealing with the period since 1918 have been classified confidential because there remain some debatable points on which the

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History Department is loath to commit itself. The faculty has been subjected to criticism for devoting too much time, at the expense of Ernst Thaelmann's place in history, to the role played by the Fischer-Maslow faction of the old KPD. In the instructors' meeting on 17 October, Hanna Wolf aimed particularly severe criticism at the History Department, accusing it of lacking the bolshevist spirit, of failing to base its work on the classics (Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and particularly the Short History of the CP USSR (B)), and of not organizing the course properly. This meeting, in fact, introduced an important new phase in the development of the Academy toward a school of the bolshevist type. In future, the syllabus of the Academy will be fashioned on lines set by the Party Academy in Moscow; this also applies to the contents of lectures and Party work within the Academy. All instructors are required to base their lectures on translated outlines prepared by the Moscow academy.

4. In September 1950, students of the two study courses were scheduled to prepare their written self-assessments, including a statement concerning the function for which they consider themselves best suited. This self-assessment, with the added endorsement of the Party group, goes to the school board and the Party directory of the Academy.
5. On 30 September and 1 October, the Philosophy Congress held its sessions at the Academy. The guest of honor was a Soviet national named Professor Feodejev (sic). University professors, editors of Einheit, members of the Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute, representatives of the Party schooling section of the various Party directorates of the Laender, of the Party schools of the Laender, of the Ministry for People's Education, of the Central Pedagogic Institute in Berlin, and Academy instructors and students attended. Feodejev's lecture was not well received; the principal criticism pointed out that it dealt more with politics than with philosophy. In addition, Feodejev answered questions from the audience in a fashion which most of his listeners considered inadequate.
6. In October 1950, the first one-year course and the second two-year course entered the final phase which stressed reviews of previous lectures. Final examinations are scheduled to commence early in November 1950. Both courses terminate on 18 December 1950. In addition to the refresher courses, instructors were occupied in preparing the so-called student characteristics, on the basis of which future assignments will be decided. During this period, practical problems were treated by outside speakers. Wolfgang Groth, Referent for school policy in Abteilung Kultur und Erziehung, Central Committee, spoke on DDR school policy objectives. Stefan Heymann, head of Abteilung Massenagitation, Central Committee, talked on the importance of agitation and propaganda. On 18 October, Gerhard Eisler lectured before the assembled student body on cosmopolitanism and neo-fascism. His address was considered uninspiring, offering nothing beyond the already known. A lecture by Anton Ackermann, scheduled for 23 October, was cancelled as a result of Ackermann's participation in the Prague Conference of satellite foreign ministers. In the coming weeks, Alex Stark, FDGB deputy chairman, and Wolfgang Harig are to lecture, the former to treat trade union policy. Otto Schoen, chief of the Cadre Section of the Central Committee, in his talk on 18 October 1950 on the objectives of cadre policy, made the following points:

A. In order to train cadres better qualified to discharge Party functions within factories and to develop independent judgment on all matters relating to production, it is planned to send Party functionaries to technical schools prior to placing them in industrial firms as Party secretaries. Schoen stressed that "the Party functionary ought to be a qualified engineer".

B. Following the precedent established by the CP USSR (B), all Party membership books will be exchanged early in 1951. This exchange, Schoen pointed out, is not merely an administrative measure, but has a very significant bearing on the ideological indoctrination of Party members.*

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C. The administrative schools are charged with the task of turning out a qualified civil service cadre. The Party must devote more attention to the students of administrative schools. The Party schools, on the other hand, are primarily responsible for turning out Party cadres.

D. An investigation of all university teachers is being carried out. Teachers found to be politically unfit will be replaced by younger, more reliable people.

E. In order to assure the full utilization of cadre reserves, the Party will pay more attention to students of technical academies and to activists.

7. In August 1950, the various Laender directorates of the SED began selecting and testing candidates for the next one-year study course and the newly organized correspondence course. The examination board consisted of one representative each from the Cadre Section of the Landesleitung, the Party Propaganda Section in the Central Committee, and the Academy. These examinations were completed by the end of September; the overall result indicated that the general level of theoretical proficiency left much to be desired.

8. The second one-year course began on 20 October 1950, instead of 1 October as scheduled. Among the 200 participants are 20 students from West Germany, who arrived at the Academy on 3 October. Students from the DDR are, for the most part, key functionaries of the Party, mass organizations, and Volkspolizei. Some ministerial officials are included, and 20 per cent of the student body are women. The majority of the students have a proletarian background. Prominent among the members of the second one-year course are the following:

A. A member of the North Rhine-Westphalian Diet and KPD secretariat in that Land, who uses the alias Rudi Winter.

B. (fnu) Fugger, a member of the FDGB directorate and author of a book on the history of the German trade union movement, which was denied publication after the SED refused to license it.

C. The personal Referent (name unknown) of the Minister President of Thuringia.

D. The chairman (name unknown) of the VdgB of Saxony Anhalt.

The opening of the course was highlighted by a celebration on 24 October. Wilhelm Pieck delivered an address which was carried in detail in Neues Deutschland. With Pieck were Fred Oelssner, Hermann Matern, Schneidewind of Parteischulung of the SED Central Committee, and (fnu) Schnein of the Soviet Control Commission. This time, contrary to the openings of previous courses, the official introduction of students to their Party groups was kept very brief, and questions from the floor were prohibited.* *

The practice of having instructors and their assistants introduce themselves and recite their curriculum vitae was abandoned completely, and students from West Germany had been particularly enjoined not to mention their place of residence.

9. Hanna Wolf has ordered that the system of periodic campaigns of criticism and self-criticism be abandoned in favor of making such criticism a more or less permanent feature of the course, thereby lending justification to its reference as the "developmental law" (Entwicklungsgesetz) of the Party. ***

For the first time, lectures on international relations, given by the History Department, are a part of the study program. The second one-year course has set aside 36 hours for the History Department, to include 14 lectures on international relations.

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10. In early October 1950, a former graduate of the Academy and member of the Propaganda Section of the Landesverband of Thuringia, mentioned in the course of a private conversation with Academy students that the preparations for the election in Thuringia had hit a snag. There had been a disquieting incidence of open resistance, especially in some of the cities and particularly in Weimar. This resistance had manifested itself in the tearing down of election posters and the distribution of leaflets. Furthermore, there had been a sizeable reduction in the number of SED members running for election on the community, district, and Land slate (in this connection, the figure of 36 per cent was mentioned as the SED share). There were strong indications that the bourgeois parties had been more effective than the SED in penetrating the mass organizations, with the result that those organizations in many instances had nominated candidates from among the bourgeois groups. Strong criticism had been expressed by the Landesverband at the average age - 30 years - of FDJ nominated candidates. Symptoms of increasing resistance were also reported by faculty members and students of the Academy on week-end leave. In some instances, SED functionaries had been attacked. Hans Viellard, a student at the Academy, claimed that the Central Committee had requested the personnel files of about 60 functionaries of the Landesverband Brandenburg, some of whom were detached to reinforce law enforcement agencies. At the Academy, the pivotal issue was whether the ballot would be marked openly or in secret, and mixed reaction was shown by both students and instructors. At the beginning of October, the head of the History of the CP USSR (B) Department, Wolfgang Schiel, an authority on Soviet Russia, took exception to a statement made by Paul Verner, Orgleiter of the Central Committee, that the vote would be open and executed in groups. Schiel referred to the Soviet practice, as described in a Taegliche Rundschau article on the electoral system of the USSR, which provides for a secret vote and the use of a voting booth. On 13 October, during a celebration in honor of the activists of the DDR, Hanna Wolf disclosed to the assembled student body that the Academy would cast its vote publicly. This came as a great surprise to most of the students. Gustav Wagner, Party functionary responsible for cultural affairs at the Academy, openly raised objections against the open vote. After discussing the matter with Ernst Mehlis, Party secretary of the Academy, and with a former Academy instructor, (fnu) Puls, member of the editorial board of Einheit (who cryptically observed that "somebody is apparently off base"), Wagner wrote a letter to Herman Matern, chief of the SED Central Control Commission, which Ernst Mehlis forwarded.**** The opposition cited Soviet election practice in favor of its stand. On 17 October, in the course of an instructors' conference, Jus Wagner and Ernst Mehlis were called to task by Hanna Wolf. All those, she stated, who had failed to comprehend the adopted election procedure, merely manifested their inability to distinguish between formal and real democracy. Ernst Mehlis tried to extricate himself by claiming he had passed the letter on without reading it. Jus Wagner, when called upon to recant and practice self-criticism, lost his nerve, was unable to answer Hanna Wolf's questions and finally left the conference room in tears. After a few days absence, he made his re-appearance at the Academy.
11. The old bloc system under which the departments held their lectures consecutively "in blocs" will not apply in the second one-year course. As an example, the students of the second one-year course had, by 29 October 1950, attended the following lectures:
- A. History of the CP USSR (B) - Marxism and Leninism in action. Lecturer: Kurt Hager.
 - B. Three lectures on the history of the USSR to the middle of the 19th Century. Lecturers: Wolfgang Schiel and Heinz Lindner.
 - C. The first and second chapters of the Short History of the CP USSR (B). Lecturers: Hirzel and Wolfgang Klausnitzer.

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After the fourth lecture on the Short History, there follow the lectures of the Philosophy Department and of the Polit/Economy Department. The history faculty will start its lectures in April 1951.

12. The correspondence course is scheduled to begin on 1 November 1950. Difficulties were encountered in finding qualified women for correspondence courses. An analysis of the examination results proved that there was a lack of appreciation of the importance of Stalin and his works.
13. The next study course at the Academy, scheduled to begin in January 1951, is expected to last two years. In the course of 1951, certainly not later than 1952, a three-year course will be started.
14. In September 1950 the physical protection of the Academy was taken over by 20 uniformed Peoples' Police who are housed inside the compound. The school directorate officially announced that the police detail is

- A. to guard all exits, and is authorized to inspect all suitcases, packages, and briefcases;
- B. to perform regular guard duty on the Academy site; (students will be required to identify themselves at all times;
- C. to take part in all official affairs at the Academy; (students will be selected to help in their ideological development).

Two nights after the police had been installed, a shooting fray took place. Allegedly a horde of people from the West Sectors tried to invade the Academy grounds, but nobody was arrested.

15. The Noel Field conspiracy and the decision of the Central Committee of the SED to demote the implicated functionaries received, of course, the full attention of the Academy. Needless to say, no voice was raised in question of the facts as presented by the SED leadership. One week after the disclosure, Rudolf Lindau addressed the complete student body of the Academy, making the following salient observations:

A. Agents and their accomplices usually come from a lower middle-class environment.

B. The recruitment of agents and their activity meet least resistance among those who underrate the role played by the USSR and by Stalin, who do not fully confide in both, and who fail to understand the role of Anglo-American imperialism. (Merker and his associates failed to comprehend that Noel Field and his circle, despite the united front against Fascism, were class foes).

C. Uncontrolled passions and moral delinquency favor the activities of the American Secret Service.

D. Based on the resolution of the Central Committee, both SED functionaries and the broad membership must display increased vigilance.

16. Early in September 1950, the students of the Academy were officially advised by Fred Oelssner that, effective immediately, Rudolf Lindau had been relieved of his position as principal of the Academy and that Frau Hanna Wolf had been appointed in his place. Lindau had been instructed by the Politburo to write a comprehensive history of the German workers movement, part of which would be the biography of Ernst Thaelmann. This project had been launched in the final resolution of the Third SED Party Conference. The prevailing impression, later confirmed by Hanna Wolf, was that Lindau had not performed to the Politburo's satisfaction in discharging his duties as principal.

17. Hans Teubner and (fnu) Eppinger, both instructors, left the Academy in July 1950. The former, it was later disclosed, was relieved of his Party functions (but not arrested) by a decision of the Central Committee of the SED, dated 31 August 1950, on the grounds of his implication in the Noel Field conspiracy. Eppinger, a philosophy teacher, was transferred to the Hennigsdorf steel factory as manager's assistant. No official reasons have been given for his transfer. Bruno Rueffler, who had been a teacher at the Academy in the Basic Issues (Grundfragen) Department for four years, was reportedly sent to the Brandenburg steel plant to take up the position of Kulturdirektor. Dorf, head of the Basic Issues Department, had to resign because of poor health. The departure of Teubner and Dorf necessitated a reshuffle of instructors. Replacements were as follows: Wolfgang Schiel was put in charge of History of the CP USSR. Heinz Abraham was named to replace Teubner in the Lehrabteilung. (fnu) Marx, a newcomer to the Academy, was placed in charge of the Parteiaufbau Department (a new faculty, the product of a merger of the Basic Issues and Philosophy Departments).
18. At the beginning of October 1950, a number of students attending the first one year study course were notified that they were slated for premature withdrawal from the course in order to receive appointments as Academy instructors with the rank of Assistant. This action was taken in pursuance of the Third Party Conference resolution envisaging a vastly increased system of Party education. This, in turn, entails the building up of a permanent training cadre composed of Party instructors versed in the Leninist/Marxist theory and not subject to re-assignment in other types of work for at least the next few years. The measure was implemented on 9 October. All students slated for assistant's positions were told that effective immediately they would cease taking part in their respective courses and would join the Academy. For purposes of supervising their scholastic progress the assistants are incorporated into Kollektive, each headed by an experienced instructor. All students thus appointed will no longer come under the jurisdiction of the Party units that sent them to the Academy but will be placed under the Central Committee, more specifically its Propaganda Section headed by Kurt Hager, which, in turn, is answerable to Politburo member Fred Oelssner.
19. The enlarged faculty, resulting from the above measure, brought about the following personnel changes:
 - A. The Correspondence Course Department is under Ludwig Arnold. He has several regional assistants, each handling the correspondence students of one Land. Goetz Scharf, formerly with the philosophy faculty, is responsible for Land Mecklenburg; Fritz Metzner, who attended the one year course, handles Land Saxony; Ilse Tischer, formerly a member of the Basic Issues Department and editor of the wall newspaper Schwarz und Weiss was placed in charge of a Land not as yet identified.
 - B. The Philosophy Department under Victor Stern, with which Basic Issues and Literature and Art have been merged, received the following additions to its staff: Marianne Lange, a graduate of the last nine-month course, was appointed Arts and Literature teacher. Erika Jäckel, who attended the second two-year course, and Ilse Schiel and Egon Dummer, of the first one-year course, have been appointed assistants.
 - C. The Economics Department, headed by (fnu) Lemnitz, includes a recently created chair for political geography under Dieter Hanneberg. Latest additions to the staff are Richard Beim, Wolfgang Nessler, Siegfried Freytag, Albrecht Heinze, Hans Lorenz, all of whom attended the first one-year course, and Marianne Henschel of the second two-year course. Richard Beim, who, during

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the war, served with the Red Army, was mayor of the borough of Schöneberg in 1945. Nessler, 21 years of age, was a member of the Central Council of the FDJ and a member of the Saxony-Anhalt SED secretariats; he is a fanatic with distinct sadistic traits.

D. The History Department, headed by Erich Paterna and his deputy Felix Rossmann, received Adolf Wicklein, a former teacher at the Landesparteihschule, Saxony-Anhalt; Martin Weinhold; Brigitte Czech, a former teacher at the Kreisparteihschule, Saxony-Anhalt; and Erika Asmuss, formerly an SED Landesverband Brandenburg functionary. All of these students were attending the first one-year course. The second two-year course provided the following additions: Rudi Pfützner, of Radio Leipzig or Dresden, and Gisela Trautsch.

E. The CP USSR (B) Department under Wolfgang Schiel received the following additions: Hanni Glöckner, whose husband will attend the second one-year course; Willi Roesel; Heinz Juch, former teacher at the Central FDGB school (Bundesschule); Sepp Sobek, formerly Kreisinstrukteur in Mecklenburg. The aforementioned persons attended the first one-year course.

F. The Lehrabteilung, headed by Heinz Abraham, added Heinz Doege, transferred from the economics faculty, and (fnu) Steigerwald, a student in the second two-year course, who comes from Western Germany.

20. According to Kurt Hager, it is planned to equalize the status of Academy instructors and University professors. This would result in an improvement, as far as the instructors are concerned, both in respect to pay and to title. If this scheme materializes, the following categories of instructors in order of rank would be created:

- A. Department Head (Fakultaetsleiter)
- B. Deputy Department Head
- C. Teacher (Oberlehrer)
- D. Instructor (Lehrer)
- E. Teaching Assistants (Oberassistent)
- F. Assistant (Assistent)

25X1 * [] Comment: This paragraph is transmitted as received in spite of its obscurity.

25X1 ** [] Comment: This was presumably done to prevent disclosure of too much detailed information on the personal and political past of the students.

25X1 *** [] Comment: Under the old system, students noted down all symptoms of deviation disclosed by their colleagues, keeping these notes aside until the date of the scheduled criticism and self-criticism period.

25X1 **** [] Comment: [] gathered that the core of opposition against the open vote centered among instructors who, like Wagner, had returned from the USSR in January 1950, and who had taught at Antifa Schools.

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